

Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Saab Model SAAB SF340A and SAAB 340B Series Airplanes; Docket No. 98-NM-244 (10-20/10-21)" (RIN2120-AA64) (1999-0411), received October 21, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5965. A communication from the Program Analyst, Office of the Chief Counsel, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Avions Mudry et Cie Model CAP 10B Airplanes; Docket No. 99 CE-26 (10-13/10-21)" (RIN2120-AA64) (1999-0397), received October 21, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5966. A communication from the Program Analyst, Office of the Chief Counsel, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Dassault Model Falcon 2000 Series Airplanes; Docket No. 98 NM-377 (10-13/10-21)" (RIN2120-AA64) (1999-0400), received October 21, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5967. A communication from the Program Analyst, Office of the Chief Counsel, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Pratt and Whitney JT9D Series Turbofan Engines; Correction; Docket No. 98 ANE-31 (10-15/10-21)" (RIN2120-AA64) (1999-0404), received October 21, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5968. A communication from the Program Analyst, Office of the Chief Counsel, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; General Electric Aircraft Engines CF34 Series Turbofan Engines; Docket No. 98 ANE-62 (10-26/10-25)" (RIN2120-AA64) (1999-0423), received October 25, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. ABRAHAM, from the Committee on the Judiciary, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1455. A bill to enhance protections against fraud in the offering of financial assistance for college education, and for other purposes.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. HELMS:

S. 1829. A bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to prohibit the payment of debts incurred by the communist government of Cuba; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. COVERDELL (for himself, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. ROTH, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. CLELAND, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. MIKULSKI, and Mr. MACK):

S. 1830. A bill to provide for the appointment of additional temporary bankruptcy

judges, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DASCHLE (for himself and Mr. JOHNSON):

S. 1831. A bill to protect and provide resources for the Social Security System, to reserve surpluses to protect, strengthen and modernize the Medicare Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Government Affairs, jointly, pursuant to the order of August 4, 1977, with instructions that if one Committee reports, the other committee have thirty days to report or be discharged.

By Mr. DASCHLE (for Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 1832. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to increase the Federal minimum wage; read the first time.

By Mr. DASCHLE (for himself, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BYRD, Mr. KERREY, and Mr. INOUE):

S. 1833. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives to encourage the production and use of efficient energy sources, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DASCHLE:

S. 1834. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to restore medical eligibility for certain supplementary security income beneficiaries; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEAHY:

S. 1835. A bill to restore Federal remedies for violations of intellectual property rights by States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. HELMS (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. COVERDELL, Mr. DODD, Mr. DEWINE, and Mr. JEFFORDS):

S. Res. 209. A resolution expressing concern over interference with freedom of the press and the independence of judicial and electoral institutions in Peru; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mr. MOYNIHAN, and Mr. LIEBERMAN):

S. Res. 210. A resolution recognizing and honoring the New York Yankees; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself and Mr. ROBB):

S. Res. 211. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the February 2000 deployment of the U.S.S. Eisenhower Battle Group and the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit to an area of potential hostilities and the essential requirements that the battle group and expeditionary unit have received the essential training needed to certify the warfighting proficiency of the forces comprising the battle group and expeditionary unit; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. ABRAHAM (for himself, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. REED, Mr. BENNETT, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. ENZI, Mr. KERRY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. EDWARDS, and Mr. LIEBERMAN):

S. Con. Res. 63. A concurrent resolution condemning the assassination of Armenian Prime Minister Vazgen Sargsian and other officials of the Armenian Government and expressing the sense of the Congress in mourning this tragic loss of the duly elected leadership of Armenia; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. INHOFE (for himself, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. HUTCHINSON, and Mr. KYL):

S. Con. Res. 64. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress concerning continued use of the United States Navy training range on the island of Vieques in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; to the Committee on Armed Services.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. COVERDELL (for himself, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. ROTH, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. CLELAND, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. MIKULSKI, and Mr. MACK):

S. 1830. A bill to provide for the appointment of additional temporary bankruptcy judges, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

BANKRUPTCY JUDGESHIP ACT

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce legislation that would address the growing bankruptcy caseload in our federal judiciary. Increased bankruptcy filings are placing a severe strain on our federal courts and on the judges who preside over these cases. The House and Senate bankruptcy reform bills seek to address this issue by authorizing eighteen new bankruptcy judges. While Congress recognizes the need for these judges, it has not yet taken the step it deems necessary to approve another needed group of bankruptcy judges identified by the U.S. Judicial Conference in March of this year. This legislation would authorize these six judgeships and help our federal judiciary address an overburdensome workload.

My home state of Georgia is one of the states that the Judicial Conference has indicated needs another bankruptcy judge. The middle and southern districts in Georgia have, respectively, the eighth and ninth highest weighted caseloads in the country. The most recent data from the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts indicates that the weighted bankruptcy filings per authorized judgeships is 1,907 for the middle district and 1,880 for the Southern district. Even with approval of a new judge for the southern district, the three full-time judges in that district would still carry a caseload that exceeds the threshold of 1,500 weighted hours that justifies the creation of another judgeship.

The review undertaken by the Judicial Conference of the workload in these Georgia districts also found that caseloads are being managed in a highly efficient manner. The Judicial Conference had no suggestions to assist the court in expending its caseload. A new judgeship is the only solution to this caseload problem.

I understand that the Judicial Conference used the same criteria to justify the 6 new judgeships in their March 1999 recommendation that they used to justify the 18 judgeships in the bankruptcy reform bills. Understanding the need for a new bankruptcy judge in my state, I support the Judicial Conference's recommendation,